

What is claimed is:

CLAIMS

1. A data packet stored on a computer readable medium, for transmitting data over a network to selected multiple remote destinations, the data packet comprising:
a header section, wherein the header section includes a list of network addresses for the selected multiple remote destinations; and
a data section, wherein the data section comprises computer readable data to be transmitted to the selected multiple remote destinations.

2. The data packet of claim 1 wherein the data packets comprise internetworking protocol (IP) data packets.

3. The data packet of claim 1 wherein the header section includes a specially formatted IP options field.

4. The data packet of claim 3 wherein the IP options field comprises:
a code byte signifying that the data packet is a DAMP data packet;
a length byte specifying the length of the IP options field; and
a number of multi-byte IP addresses, one for each of the selected multiple remote destinations.

5. A method for developing a data packet for transmission to selected multiple remote destinations, the method comprising:
a DAMP sending client embedding in a header section of a first data packet a formatted IP options field, wherein the IP options field includes identification of the data packet as a DAMP data packet;
setting a source IP address field to the IP address of the DAMP sending client; and
setting a destination IP address field to the non-zero IP address of one of the selected multiple remote destinations.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the embedding step further comprises formatting the IP options field to include:
a code byte signifying that the data packet is a DAMP data packet;
a length byte specifying the length of the IP options field; and
a number of multi-byte IP addresses, one for each of the selected multiple remote destinations.

1 7. A computer readable medium on which is embedded a program which is operable
2 to execute a method for developing a data packet for transmission to selected multiple
3 remote destinations, the method comprising:

4 a DAMP sending client embedding in a header section of a first data
5 packet a formatted IP options field, wherein the IP options field includes
6 identification of the data packet as a DAMP data packet;
7 setting a source IP address field to the IP address of the DAMP sending
8 client; and
9 setting a destination IP address field to the non-zero IP address of one of
10 the selected multiple remote destinations.
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12 8. The computer readable medium of claim 9, wherein the embedding step further
13 comprises formatting the IP options field to include:

14 a code byte signifying that the data packet is a DAMP data packet;
15 a length byte specifying the length of the IP options field; and
16 a number of multi-byte IP addresses, one for each of the selected multiple
17 remote destinations.
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